

Message Text

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42

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-03 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-07 RSC-01

CIEP-02 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 COME-00

TAR-02 AGR-20 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 L-03 H-03 NIC-01

DRC-01 /151 W

----- 122262

R 151544Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3974

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 3514

DEPT PASS COMMERCE BEWT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, NL, RO, EEC

SUBJ: DUTCH-ROMANIA ECONOMIC COOP AGREEMENT

SUMMARY: FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER PATAN OF ROMANIA RETURNED HOME JULY 11 AFTER 3-DAY VISIT TO THE HAGUE DURING WHICH HE AND DUTCH COUNTERPARTS WERE TO HAVE SIGNED 10-YEAR AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC, INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL COOP. REFERENCES TO GATT AND "MARKETS" IN AGREEMENT TROUBLED EC COMMISSION WHICH AT LAST MINUTE INSISTED DUTCH AND ROMANIANS ATTACH LETTERS STATING EXPLICITLY THAT AGREEMENT WOULD NOT AFFECT TRADE RELATIONS. PATAN, HOWEVER, DID NOT HAVE UNCLASSIFIED

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AUTHORITY TO SIGN SUCH LETTER AND LEFT FOR BUCHAREST EMPTY-

HANDED.

1. ROMANIAN FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER PATAN, WHO CAME TO THE HAGUE JULY 8 FOR 3-DAY VISIT, DURING WHICH HE AND DUTCH ECONMIN LUBBERS WERE TO HAVE SIGNED 10-YEAR AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNICAL COOP INITIALED IN BUCHAREST LAST APRIL, LEFT EMPTY-HANDED FOR BUCHAREST JULY 11 AFTER LAST-MINUTE HITCH DEVELOPED WITH EC COMMISSION OVER POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF AGREEMENT ON TRADE RELATIONS.

2. SOURCE OF DIFFICULTY WAS ARTICLE 2 OF AGREEMENT WHICH CALLS FOR PARTIES TO RECIPROCAT MFN TREATMENT AND TO PROVIDE GREATER ACCESS TO EACH OTHERS' "MARKETS, ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS." ACCORDING TO EMBASSY SOURCE (WIERINGA, MINECON DEPUTY HEAD OF OFFICE RESPONSIBLE FOR ECON RELATIONS WITH EE), EC COMMISSION ADVISED DUTCH THAT LETTER'S SIGNING AGREEMENT WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE COMMISSION UNLESS PARTIES ATTACHED WRITTEN CLARIFICATION THAT ARTICLE 2 OF TREATY WOULD NOT ALTER EXISITNG TRADE RELATIONS. UNDERSTAND FROM WIERINGA THAT COMMISSION HINTED IT WOULD PURSUE MATTER IN EUROPEAN COURT IF DUTCH DID NOT COMPLY WITH COMMISSION'S REQUEST. WHILE, ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, THE DUTCH WERE DISPOSED TO SATISFY THE COMMISSION PATAN HAD COME TO HOLLAND WITH AUTHORITY TO SIGN AGREEMENT ONLY. PATAN THEREFORE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO DEPART FOR BUCHAREST WITHOUT SIGNING THE AGREEMENT. COMMENT: WE HAVE NOT YET LEARNED WHO - DUTCH OR EC COMMISSION - AT FAULT FOR ELEVENTH HOUR ANNOUNCEMENT OF DIFFICULTY.

3. UNDERSTAND FROM WIERINGA THAT LANGUAGE IN QUESTION IS SAME AS LANGUAGE IN FRG-ROMANIA DRAFT AGREEMENT ON SAME SUBJECT WHICH SIMILARLY CREATED PROBLEMS FOR EC COMMISSION. WIERINGA SAID THAT FRG WAS PROPOSING TO ROMANIANS LANGUAGE FOR LETTER TO BE ATTACHED TO THEIR AGREEMENT AND THAT DUTCH WOULD WAIT FOR OUTCOME OF FRG APPROACH BEFORE PROCEEDING FURTHER. (UK DELEGATION IS REPORTEDLY GOING TO BUCHAREST WEEK OF JULY 15 TO DISCUSS AGREEMENT ON SAME SUBJECT AS COVERED BY DUTCH-ROMANIA AGREEMENT). WIERINGA THOUGHT PROBLEM WOULD BE RESOLVED IN NEAR FUTURE THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS AND THAT LUBBERS WOUD THEN MAKE QUICK TRIP TO BUCHAREST FOR SIGNATURE CEREMONY. AGREEMENT WOULD THEN BE SUBMITTED TO PARLIAMENT, WITH APPROVAL EXPECTED WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF SUBMISSION.
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4. TEXT OF AGREEMENT (FRENCH ONLY) POUCHED TO STATE, USEC AND BUCHAREST.
TANGUY

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NNN

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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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